In the Claims:

The claims listing is as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for treating a material, comprising:

forming an ozone-solvent solution at a first temperature;

passing said ozone-solvent solution through a heater to heat said ozonesolvent solution from said first temperature to form a heated-ozone solvent solution relative to said first temperature; and

reacting the <u>heated</u> ozone-solvent solution with the material at a second temperature;

wherein the first temperature is less than the second temperature[, the relatively lower first temperature facilitating an increased concentration of dissolved ozone in the solvent, the relatively higher second temperature facilitating an increased reaction rate between the ozone-solvent solution and the material; and

wherein the reacting step comprises:

heating said ozone-solvent solution from said first temperature to substantially said second temperature to form a heated ozone-solvent solution; and after said step of heating said ozone-solvent solution, applying said heated ozone-solvent solution to the material at said second temperature].

- 2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said ozone-solvent solution is formed at said first temperature by dissolving an ozone gas in solvent at said first temperature.
- 3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the second temperature is at least 5 degrees Celsius greater than the first temperature.
- 4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, wherein the first temperature is between 1 and 30 degrees Celsius.

- 5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, wherein the first temperature is between 1 and 10 degrees Celsius.
- 6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, wherein the second temperature is between 30 and 95 degrees Celsius.
- 7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, wherein the second temperature is between 35 and 65 degrees Celsius.
- 8. Cancelled
- 9. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein said heated ozone-solvent solution is [applied to] reacted with the material within a time period after heat is first applied to said ozone-solvent solution in said heater [for heating said ozone-solvent solution from said first temperature to the said second temperature] to minimize a decrease in concentration of [the dissolved] ozone in the heated ozone-solvent solution [resulting from heating the ozone-solvent solution].
- 10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9, wherein the time period is [set to a predetermined value] such that the concentration of the <u>heated</u> ozone-solvent solution [applied to the material] at said second temperature is greater than if said ozone-solvent solution had been formed at said second temperature.
- 11. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 9, wherein the time period corresponds to no more than a 20 percent decrease in the concentration of the dissolved ozone in the heated ozone-solvent solution from the concentration at the first temperature.
- 12. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein reacting said ozone-solvent solution with <u>the</u> material comprises applying the ozone-solvent solution to the material using at least one nozzle.
- 13. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein reacting the ozone-solvent solution with the material comprises immersing the material within the ozone-solvent solution.
- 14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of [applying] reacting said heated ozone-solvent solution [to] with said material has at least one point of [application] reaction, and wherein the [step of heating] heater comprises [using a liquid-to-liquid] a heat exchanger placed just upstream of the at least one point of [application] reaction of said heated ozone-solvent solution [to] with said material.

- 15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of [applying] reacting said heated ozone-solvent solution [to] with said material has at least one point of [application] reaction, and wherein the [heated ozone-solvent solution is heated using] heater comprises an in-line heater placed just upstream of the at least one point of [application] reaction of said heated ozone-solvent solution [to] with said material.
- 16. Cancelled
- 17. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, further comprising: injecting [and mixing] a chemical into said ozone-solvent solution prior to reacting said ozone-solvent solution with said material.
- 18. Cancelled
- 19. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 17, wherein the chemical comprises a hydroxyl radical scavenger.
- 20. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 17, wherein the chemical comprises an element selected from the group consisting of a pH buffer, an acid, and a base.
- 21. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 17, wherein the chemical comprises a corrosion inhibitor.
- 22. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 17, wherein the chemical comprises a surfactant.
- 23. Cancelled
- 24. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein said material comprises a substrate, and wherein the step of reacting said <u>heated</u> ozone-solvent solution with said substrate comprises:

spinning said substrate to achieve a rotational speed about an axis; and dispensing said ozone-solvent solution over the spinning substrate using at least one nozzle.

- 25. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 24, wherein said at least one nozzle is positioned on said axis.
- 26. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 24, wherein a plurality of nozzles are positioned in a plurality of positions over the substrate.

- 27. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein said material comprises a substrate, said method further comprising the step of rinsing the substrate after the substrate is [treated] reacted with said heated ozone-solvent solution.
- 28. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein the material comprises a planar substrate selected from the group consisting of semiconductor wafers, flat panel displays, and memory discs, substrates for use in an electronic device.
- 29. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein the material is selected from the group consisting of photoresist, post etch resist residue, post etch residue, anti-reflective coating, organic contamination.
- 30. Cancelled
- 31. (Currently Amended) A method for oxidizing a material, comprising:

[dissolving an ozone gas in solvent at a first temperature to form] <u>forming</u> an ozone-solvent solution <u>at a first temperature</u>;

[heating] <u>passing</u> the ozone-solvent solution <u>through a heater to heat said</u> <u>ozone-solvent solution</u> from the first temperature [to a second temperature] to form a heated ozone-solvent solution; and

after the step of [heating] <u>passing</u> the ozone-solvent solution <u>through the</u>
<u>heater</u>, reacting the heated ozone-solvent solution with the material at [approximately the] a second temperature to oxidize the material,

wherein [dissolving the ozone gas in solvent] <u>forming the ozone-solvent solution</u> at the cooler first temperature allows for a higher concentration of [dissolved] ozone in the [solvent] <u>ozone-solvent solution</u>, and the warmer second temperature allows for a higher reaction rate between the ozone-solvent solution and the material.

- 32. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 31, further comprising rinsing the material.
- 33. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 31, wherein the second temperature is at least 5 degrees Celsius greater than the first temperature.
- 34. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 31, wherein the first temperature is between 1 and 30 degrees Celsius.

- 35. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 31, wherein the second temperature is between 30 and 95 degrees Celsius.
- 36. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 31, wherein reacting the ozone-solvent solution with the material comprises applying the ozone-solvent solution to the material.
- 37. Cancelled
- 38. Cancelled
- 39. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 31, further comprising: injecting a chemical into the ozone-solvent solution prior to applying the ozone-solvent solution to the material.

40-115 Cancelled

116. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 24, further comprising the step of moving said nozzle relative to said substrate.

117-120 Cancelled

121. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of [applying] reacting said heated ozone-solvent solution [to] with said material comprises passing said heated ozone-solvent solution through an orifice that directs said heated ozone-solvent solution toward said material, and wherein the [ozone-solvent solution is heated in the heating step using an in-line] heater is placed just upstream of said orifice.